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9 OCT 1970

Copy 5

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Strategic Research

ATTENTION: Chief, Asian Communist Forces Division, OSR

SUBJECT: Requirement for Missile Search of China

1. I have your memorandum of 28 September terminating the standard rail search requirement on China.

2. We see no problem with your proposal--in fact, welcome it. The Imagery Exploitation Group is considering several alternative methods for presenting search data on China to satisfy your needs. Members of the Group will keep in touch with you and present their best proposal as soon as it can be firmed up.

3. In the meantime, we will need to know from you what the community needs are in terms of time schedules for reporting.

Executive Director

National Photographic Interpretation Center

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NPIC/ODIR: [ ] (9 Oct 70)

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MEMORANDUM FOR: SA/O/Dir

Re: China SSM Search

See no problems with [ ] proposal--in fact welcome it.

EGD is considering several alternative methods for presenting search data and will be in touch with [ ] as soon as we can firm up a proposal. Each PI will be keeping book on the coverage in his province, so the necessary raw material should be readily available. We will need to know from the community what given period of time is acceptable.

cc: C/EGD  
C/RAD *RE*

2 October 70  
(DATE)

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FROM <i>O/DIR</i>			DATE <i>9-28-70</i>
TO	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
DIRECTOR			
DEP/DIRECTOR			
EXEC/DIRECTOR			
SPECIAL ASST			
ASST TO DIR			
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MEMORANDUM FOR: **CHIEF**

Harb:

Any problems with  
this?  
W

9/25  
(DATE)

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23 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, National  
Photographic Interpretation Center

THROUGH : Director of Strategic Research

SUBJECT : Requirement for Missile Search  
of China

1. This memorandum terminates our requirement for the Rail Search for MRBM Deployment (C-RR7-84470, Supl. 1/NPIC 111107EB).

2. While this requirement was in effect, the only two new missile sites detected in China were found by other means. In addition, the nature of the probable training exercises observed at Complex A of the Shuang-ch'eng-tzu rangehead in June and July of this year raises the possibility that the type of MRBM used there might be deployed at considerable distances from rail lines.

3. NPIC's new practice of dividing China into 26 geographic areas and assigning one PI to each area to become thoroughly familiar with that area seems to us to offer much greater assurance than the rail search that new missile sites will be detected in their early stages of development. Under this system, as we understand it, all of the usable China photography of each mission will be searched.

4. With the rail search it was relatively simple to evaluate coverage over a given period of time in terms of percentage of the total rail system. It will now be necessary to develop a new system of reporting. The officers of NPIC, OBG,

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and OSR who are directly concerned with the problem have conferred and believe that a meaningful system will not be too difficult to work out. Basically the reporting would be in terms of the percentage of all of China which had been searched within a given period of time. It may be desirable to refine this into China proper and the western provinces or some similar division.

5. At present we are thinking in terms of doing an annual China-search report each April or May, directly following the most favorable period for overhead photography of China. It may be desirable to publish also a fall supplement to include what coverage has been achieved during the more cloudy, monsoonal half of the year.

6. All recipients of this memorandum are invited to write or telephone comments to me if they see serious problems in what is planned or have suggestions for improvements.

[Redacted]

Chief  
Asian Communist Forces Division, OSR

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

~~TOP SECRET~~